# Bonneville Power Administration Fish and Wildlife Program FY98 Watershed Proposal Form

# Section 1. General administrative information

# Title Rehabilitation Of Johnson Creek/Cox Ranch

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9607706					
Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries/ Watershed					
Business acronym (if appropriate) NPT					
Proposal contact person	or principal investigator:				
Name	Name Ira Jones				
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 365				
City, ST Zip	Lapwai, ID 83540				
Phone	(208) 843-7406				
Fax	(208) 843-7322				
<b>Email address</b>	iraj@nezperce.org				

#### Subcontractors.

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	<b>Contact Name</b>
Earth Conservation	P.O. Box 689	Lapwai ID, 83540	Heidi Stubbers
Corp Salmon			
CorpNez Perce			
Boise National	1249 Vinnell Suite	Boise, ID 83709	Wayne Patton
Forest	200		

#### NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.

SECTION 7.6 - HABITAT GOALS, POLICIES, AND OBJECTIVES; SECTION 7.7 - COOPERATIVE HABITAT PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT WITH PRIVATE LANDOWNERS; SECTION 7.8 - IMPLEMENT STATE, FEDERAL, AND TRIBAL HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS

NMFS Biological Opinion	n Number(s) v	which this p	roject addresses.
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Other planning document references.

Boneville Power Administration, 1997. Watershed Management Program: Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, 1997. Intergrated Watershed Projects: The Process and Criteria for Selecting Watershed Projects for the Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Program.

Columbia River Fish & Wildlife Program, 1994. Columbia River Basin Fish & Wildlife Program

CRITFC, 1995. WY-KAN-USH-MI WA-KISH-WIT, Spirit of the Salmon. Volume I & II. Portland, Oregon.

Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Department of Fish & Game, 1990. Salmon River Subbasin Salmon and Steelhead Production Plan. Northwest Power Planning Council & CBFWA. Boise, Idaho.

#### Subbasin.

SALMON RIVER SUBBASIN, JOHNSON CREEK

#### **Short description.**

RESTORING THE JOHNSON CREEK, WITHIN THE SALMON RIVER SUBBASIN IS THE OVERALL GOAL OF THIS PROJECT. WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS WORKING WITHIN AN OVERALL WATERSHED APPROACH, COMPLETING TWO OBJECTIVES WITHIN THE CREEK.

# Section 2. Key words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
X	Anadromous fish	X	Construction	X	Watershed
*	Resident fish		O & M		Biodiversity/genetics
*	Wildlife		Production		Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research		Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.		Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
			Planning/admin.		Supplementation
			Enforcement	*	Wildlife habitat en-
			Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

# Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
8909802	Salmon Sulemental Studies in ID Rv.	Our project provides for habitat for
	Nez Perce Tribe	these salmon.
9604300	Johnson Creek Artificial Propagation	The improvement of habitat to help
	Enhancement - O& M	with the propagation.

# Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

# Objectives and tasks

Obj		Task	
1,2,3	Objective	a,b,c	Task
1	Streambank stabilization	a	Re-plant native riparian
			vegetation.
		b	Purchase of riparian plants.
2	Fence riparian cooridor.	a	Place fence to protect riparian
			vegetation.
		b	Purchase fencing material.

# Objective schedules and costs

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	6/1998	7/1998	60.00%
2	6/1998	7/1998	40.00%
			0.00%
			TOTAL 100.00%

## **Schedule constraints.**

EXISTING SCHEDULES FOR THE 1998 BUDGET YEAR MAY CHANGE DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS. THE ON-THE-GROUND PROJECT OCCURS IN A MOUNTAINOUS AREA AT AN ELEVATION OF 5000 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, WHERE UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER PATTERNS MAY OCCUR.

#### Completion date.

THIS PROJECT IS ONLY GOING TO NEED ONE YEAR OF FUNDING FOR THE ON THE GROUND ACTIVITIES. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND OPERATION WILL CONTINUE BEYOND 2003.

# Section 5. Budget

#### FY99 budget by line item

Item	FY98	FY99
Personnel	1998- \$23,770.40	\$2,000
Fringe benefits	1998- \$2,669.08	\$ 540
Supplies, materials, non-	1998- \$2,500.00	\$ 500
expendable property		
Operations & maintenance		
Capital acquisitions or		
improvements (e.g. land,		
buildings, major equip.)		
PIT tags	# of tags:	
Travel	1998- \$6,700.00	\$1,000
Indirect costs	1998- \$11,478.37	\$1,180
Subcontracts	1998- \$27,500.00	\$ 350
Other	1998- Vehicle Costs \$3,670.00	
TOTAL		\$5,570

#### Outyear costs

Outyear costs	FY2000	FY01	FY02	FY03
Total budget	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
O&M as % of total	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%

## Section 6. Abstract

Johnson Creek is a stream with a history of summer chinook production impacted by agricultural and grazing uses of the private land adjacent to the stream. This reach of Johnson Creek has a large amount of quality spawning habitat and is important to the health of the fish in this drainage. Stream reaches that are not channelized were heavily damaged in the 1996 flood event. Riparian vegetation was up-rooted, gravel's were deposited and stream banks eroded and the general meander increased. Following the

flood, dozers and backhoes were allowed to enter the stream channel without restriction or regard for fisheries habitat protection. The flood in combination with stream excavation, intended to abate future flood impacts, have compounded the damage done to fisheries habitat. There are also horses grazing along the creek and due to this and past grazing practices the riparian canopy has been destroyed. The horses currently grazing on the stream cross the stream and disturb nesting salmon as well as destroying established redds. This proposal would begin working with the private land owner, Leif Cox and his family and would explore additional stream habitat restoration for fisheries enhancement compatible with other land use practices.

## Section 7. Project description

#### a. Technical and/or scientific background.

The Johnson Creek project is located on private property and is a tributary of the South Fork of the Salmon River. This tributary and two others are in the principle chinook spawning habitat within the lower Salmon River system (CRITFC, 1995). The private property is owned by Leif Cox and discussion is on-going for cooperation between the Boise National Forest, Nez Perce Tribe and the Cox family. The first objective of this project involves the stabilization of the stream bank by revegetating the banks. The second deals with the protection of the riparian vegetation, streambank stability and salmon redds by fencing the corridor.

The two objectives our project proposes strives towards meeting all of the goals and objectives found in the Fish Restoration Plan of the Tribes (CRITFC, 1995).

# ANADROMOUS FISH RESTORATION PLAN OF THE FOUR TRIBES GOALS

- Restore anadromous fishes to the river and streams that support the historical culture and economic practices of the tribes.
- Emphasize strategies that rely on natural production and healthy river systems to achieve this goal.
- Protect tribal sovereignty and treaty rights.
- Reclaim the anadromous fish resources and the environment on which it depends for future generations.

Putting fish back into river and stream systems alone are not enough to restore their populations, they need a healthy system to return, spawn, and rear in. Our proposal objectives will mitigate (in-place, in-kind) the problems stated above by decreasing sediment into rivers and streams (restoring and increasing spawning areas), produce riparian and stream bank vegetation (decreasing stream temperatures, increasing rearing habitat, producing cover for fish and wildlife, stabilizing stream banks), and keeping cattle/horses out of critical riparian and stream areas (allowing the stream and riparian areas to grow and heal).

The project proposal also protects the goal of tribal sovereignty and treaty rights. In the Treaty of 1855, the Nez Perce Tribe ceded much of their aboriginal territory to the United States in exchange for a reservation that was to serve as a permanent homeland.

In that treaty, the Nez Perce Tribe reserved certain rights including, "the exclusive right of taking fish in all the streams where running through or bordering said reservations is further secured to said Indians (Nez Perce Treaty of 1885, 1855)." According to this, the government has a trust agreement to protect all tribal resources. The proposal will work toward protecting our resources, therefore fulfilling the governments responsibilities. The project will also allow the tribe to manage our own tribal resources, which will in turn protect our sovereignty and treaty rights. This is called for in the *National Indian Forest Resource Management Act (PL 101-630)*, which provides for the management of forested tribal trust lands (USDA, 1997).

#### CRITFC OBJECTIVES

- Within 7 years, halt the declining trends in salmon, sturgeon, and lamprey populations originating upstream of Bonneville Dam.
- Within 25 years, increase the total adult salmon returns of stocking originating above Bonneville Dam to 4 million annually and in a manner that sustains natural production to support tribal commercial as well as ceremonial and subsistence harvests.
- Within 25 years, increase sturgeon and lamprey populations to naturally sustainable levels that also support tribal harvest abundance in perpetuity.

#### b. Proposal objectives.

<u>OBJECTIVE 1:</u> Stream Banks Stabilization, Produce Fish & Wildlife Cover, and improve water temperatures.

PRODUCT: Revegetate the stream riparian and bank areas to stabilize banks, produce cover for fish & wildlife, and improve stream temperatures, (Connin, 1997). These temperatures will be targeted to reach between 50-57 F (NMFS, 1997), (CRITFIC, 1995).

OBJECTIVE 2: Fence riparian corridor.

PRODUCT: Place 1 mile of fence on either side of Johnson Creek within the Cox family ranch to protect the product of objective 1.

#### c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

Protecting and restoring the Salmon River and its tributaries is called for in the objectives and goals of the Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama Tribes (Volume I). Both of the project objectives propose to serve an overall watershed plan to restore and protect the Johnson Creek Watershed, therefore, increasing anadromous and resident fish and wildlife habitat, assisting in enlarging their populations, and in turn, protecting Nez Perce Tribal treaty rights and culture.

Riparian restoration helps many species of fish & wildlife while also helping to stabilize aquatic environments (Connin, 1991). Riparian corridors create a vegetative column along streams and rivers which serve as transportation routes for wildlife such as birds, bats, deer, and elk (Stevens et al, 1977). With the revegetation of the streams we will also improve the aquatic characteristics. The addition of a shade component will decrease water temperatures, increase streamflow, increase water depth, reduce sedimentation, stabilize the stream banks, elevate water-tables and increase cover for fish (Connin, 1991). These benefits help to protect the treaty rights guaranteed by the treaty of 1855 with the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho (Treaty 1855).

The need to protect the riparian area from any cattle/horse grazing will be accomplished by placing a fence around the riparian corridor. This fence will be placed 30 feet from the high water mark and will run on both sides of the creek. The specifications for the fence will be supplied by the Forest in conjunction with the private land owner. The fence will allow for crossing of the horses to the far side at sights which do not have appropriate cobble for chinook salmon nesting. Historically, there has never been a fence on the stream and because of this the trampling of salmon redds is something that has gone on for many years. The fence will serve two purposes; exclude cattle/horses from the riparian vegetation to allow for growth and keep the cattle/horses out of the spawning habitat.

All of the work proposed will be done with the cooperation of the Boise National Forest and the Cox family. We have a Collection Agreement with the Boise National Forest that spells out the sharing of resources between the two government entities.

#### d. Project history

The work that was done on this stream has all been done in the negotiation room. We spent the 1997 work season evaluating the needs of the Johnson Creek/Cox Ranch property and came up with good plan for rehabilitation. We were allotted \$54,482.00 to work on the project but due to discussions with the Boise National Forest to use a Forest hydrologist we were unable to put anything on the ground this season. We also spent time with the Cox family in seeing what they saw as the problem and blending their needs in with the plan we set forth for the project.

#### e. Methods.

#### METHODOLOGY - OBJECTIVE 1

This project is going to be carried out with the assistance of the Nez Perce Tribe and Boise National Forest. The purpose of this objective is to provide for a stable streambank by re-vegetating the bank.

#### SCOPE:

- Revegetate 2 miles of riparian areas.

#### METHOD:

- Purchase native riparian species to be replanted.
- Plant both shrub and tree species throughout the riparian corridor.

The methods with which the projects will be carried out are as follows. The riparian revegetation will be accomplished using native species if willow, hawthorne, alders, and cottonwoods. The willow, hawthorne, alders species will be placed at 4 foot intervals in a staggered pattern, while the cottonwoods will be placed approximately 15-20 feet from the stream bank and 10 feet apart. This spacing will allow for a diverse stream buffer contributing to the health of the riparian corridor and support a diverse community of fish and wildlife.

Within the revegetation of the project there are expected losses of seedlings & clippings due to browsing by wild animals and the horses currently pastured in the area. These losses will be monitored throughout the field season and decisions will be made about any problems arising from these losses. We will evaluate the effectiveness of the revegetation by measuring the growth of the trees and shrubs during their growing season.

#### METHODOLOGY - OBJECTIVE 2

The re-vegetation will be wasted if it is not protected and objective 2 is designed to do that along with the control of grazing animals.

SCOPE:

- Fence 2 miles of riparian corridor.

METHOD:

- Hire sub-contractor to do the fencing.

The methods with which this objective will be carried out are as follows. The riparian fencing will be done by the sub-contractor using wood posts every 10', as determined and agreed by the U.S. Forest Service, private land owners (Cox family) and the Tribe. Historically, metal posts have been driven into the ground by heavy snow loads making the fence non-functional, and for this reason, wood posts will be used instead of metal posts.

## f. Facilities and equipment.

• EQUIPMENT: Tree Planting Bags

AMOUNT: 4

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Purchased USE: To carry large numbers of seedlings to be planted.

• EQUIPMENT: GSA Vehicles

AMOUNT: 2 (1-Ford Expedition, 1-Ford F-250 truck)

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Leased

USE: The GSA Vehicles will be used to transport employees, equipment, materials, and ATV.

• EQUIPMENT: ATV

AMOUNT: 1

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Owned

USE: The ATV will be used to transport equipment and materials to the work site. It will also assist in the building of the fence.

• EQUIPMENT: Office Computer

AMOUNT: 1

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Owned

USE: The computer will be used to write reports.

• EQUIPMENT: Motorized auger

AMOUNT: 1

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Rented

USE: The auger will be used to drill holes where the ground is to hard to use the man powered auger.

• EQUIPMENT: Tree Planting Bar

AMOUNT: 4

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Purchased

USE: The bars will be used to plant all riparian and wetland vegetation.

• EQUIPMENT: Tree feeding auger

AMOUNT: 2

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED: Purchased

USE: These will be used to place trees that need to be placed deeper than one foot.

• EQUIPMENT:

AMOUNT:

TO BE PURCHASED, RENTED, OR OWNED:

USE:

#### g. References.

#### REFERENCES

Clearwater national Forest and the Nez Perce Tribe, 1997. Challenge Cost-Share Agreement between the Boise National Forest and the Nez Perce Tribe. Lapwai, Idaho.

Connin, Steve. 1991. Characteristics of Successful Riparian Restoration Projects in the Pacific Northwest. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10.

CRITFIC, 1995. WY-KAN-USH-MI-WA-KISH-WIT, Spirit of the Salmon, The Columbia River Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama Tribes. Volume 1. Portland, Oregon.

EPA, 1993. Monitoring Protocols to Evaluate Water Quality Effects of Grazing Management on Western Rangeland Streams.

Fuller, R., Kucera, P., and Johnson, Dr. (1995). A biologist and physical inventory of streams within the Nez Perce Reservation.

Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Department of Fish and Game. (1990). Salmon River Subbasin: salmon and steelhead production plan.

Nez Perce Treaty of 1855, 1855. Nez Perce Treaty of 1855 with the United States Federal Government.

NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service), 1997. Salmon Recovery Plan for the Snake River.

Stevens, L.E., et. Al. 1977. Importance, Preservation and Management of Riparian Habitat: A Symposium. Rocky Mt. For. And Range Exp. Stn. Fort Collins, Colorado.

USDA, 1997. Forest Service National Resource Book on American Indian and Alaska Native Relations. FSM1563.

## Section 8. Relationships to other projects

Several agreements (written and verbal) have been made between various agencies and individuals to work together with the *Nez Perce Tribal Watershed Management Program* in performing work within the Salmon River Subbasin. The staff and program manager, Ira Jones, is constantly seeking agreements and/or corporation between other agencies for work to be completed with the Salmon River Subbasin.

Currently, the Nez Perce Tribe is working under a Collection Agreement with the Boise National Forest. This agreement discusses the relationship between the two governments with regard to watershed management in the Salmon River Subbasin and the Boise National Forest. Also, during this time we have explored further opportunities within the watershed for cost share agreements with U.S. Forest Service, private land owners and State of Idaho organizations. That exploration has lead to opportunities in this proposal.

According to the Nez Perce Treaty of 1855 with the Federal Government, the government has a trust responsibility to protect all tribal resources. This proposal will work toward protecting our resources, therefore fulfilling the federal government trust responsibilities. This project will also allow the tribe to manage our own tribal resources, which will in turn protect our sovereignty and treaty rights.

Approximately \$233,000 has also been appropriated to the Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries Program by BPA, Project #8909802, for Salmon Supplementation in Idaho Rivers. Idaho Salmon Supplementation Studies is a cooperative research project of the IDFG, the NPT, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to test supplementation on an experimental basis. BPA funds the program through five projects, one which is the NPT portion described in the Project Number above.

This project will directly help fisheries projects already funded by BPA. BPA has allotted \$1,800,000 to the Nez Perce-Johnson Creek Artificial Propagation Enhancement - O & M, Project #9604300. The project will trap adult salmon beginning in 1997 and their eggs will be transferred to the McCall Hatchery and progeny reared to a fall presmolt or smolt stage. Juveniles would then be transferred to a satellite facility on Johnson Creek in the early spring of 1999 where they would be reared and/or acclimated as smolts

and released near major spawning areas. In order for their program to achieve success, habitat conditions in the stream need to offer as beneficial conditions as possible. The objectives of this proposal will work to benefit fish and wildlife habitat for all Nez Perce projects.

# Section 9. Key personnel

NAME: Emmit E. Taylor Jr.

TITLE: Civil Engineer-In-Training

FTE: 1.0

<u>DUTIES ON PROJECT:</u> Road obliteration field inspector; Assist in analyzing, designing, and construction of bank stabilization structures. Co-coordinator for all Lolo Creek Drainage Projects.

<u>QUALIFICATIONS</u>: Emmit E. Taylor Jr. has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University. He has worked in several professional firms including, but not limited to, Colorado State University Transportation Program, Womer & Associates Engineering and Architecture Firm, and the Nez Perce Tribe.

<u>DEGREE:</u> Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering - Colorado State University CERTIFICATION STATUS: Civil Engineer-In-Training

<u>CURRENT EMPLOYER:</u> Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries/Watershed Management Program <u>CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES:</u> Assist in gathering, analyzing, and interpreting watershed data; represent program in various interdisciplinary teams; assist in surveying project areas; aid in assessing water resources/quality; knowledge of current computer software programs; design of civil engineering projects; supervise and field inspection of road obliteration; co-coordinate program projects.

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:

<u>EXPERTISE</u>: Emmit E. Taylor Jr.'s background is in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in hydrology. Mr. Taylor's analysis, design, and construction work concentrates on stream rehabilitation, stream morphology, water quality, road obliteration, in-stream structures, and fish passage improvements.

<u>PUBLICATION OR JOB COMPLETIONS:</u> (1) Eldorado Fall Area Survey, (2) McComas Meadows Meadow Protection Project, (3) Squaw Creek Stream Survey and Analysis, (4) Colville Confederated Tribes HRD Building Site Development Design, and (5) Geiger Boulevard Environmental Analysis.

<u>NAME</u>: Felix M. McGowan <u>TITLE</u>: Habitat Biologist

FTE/HOURS: 1.0

<u>DUTIES OF PROJECT:</u> Co-coordinator for all projects, riparian revegatation supervisor, fence placement coordinator and liaison between Forest Service and Tribal work crews. <u>QUALIFICATIONS:</u> Felix M. McGowan has a degree in Biology from Gonzaga University. He has worked for the Nez Perce Tribe for one year. Prior to coming to this job he worked in a college setting at North Idaho College.

**DEGREE**: Bachelors of Arts in Biology, Gonzaga University

<u>CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES:</u> Determine budget and staffing needs, prepare project work plans and coordination of projects, work with interdisciplinary teams, help to

develop land management plans, coordinate fish, wildlife and cultural habitat requirements, investigate potential projects, and help inventory and evaluate habitat conditions.

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:

1988-1994 McGowan Farms

1994-1997 North Idaho College

1997-present Nez Perce Tribe

<u>EXPERTISE</u>: Felix has a good base in the natural sciences. His work focuses on protection and restoration of riparian and cultural sites. These two areas require a knowledge of a variety of habitat types and how the different habitats interrelate with one another.

<u>PUBLICATIONS OR JOBS COMPLETED:</u> 1)Squaw Creek Road Obliteration, 2) Squaw Creek Stream Survey, 3)McComas Meadows Fencing Project, 4) Musselshell Meadows Fencing Project, 5)Johnson Creek/Cox Ranch Rehabilitation Review.

Ira Jones, Clearwater Subbasin Focus Coordinator (1 FTE)
Habitat/Watershed Manager, Nez Perce Tribe

#### Education

INSTITUTION	LOCATION	ATTENDANCE	MAJOR	DEGREES
University of Montana	Missoula, MT	Sept. 73 - June 74	Wildlife	N/A

Certificates N/A

Professional Organizations N/A

#### **Employment History**

March 3, 1997 to present, Clearwater Subbasin Focus Program Coordinator for the Nez Perce Tribe, Lapwai, Idaho. <u>Duties</u>: Analyze programs, laws, policies related to watershed management. Facilitate development of criteria to identify critical fisheries habitat. Develop system to apply criteria to watershed for project development and administration. Prepare plan documents for watershed habitat work coordination. Give educational presentations and workshops for watershed management and proposal development. Provide assistance to project proponents with proposal development, implementation, monitoring, and assessment.

May of 1996 to present, Habitat/Watershed Manager of the Nez Perce Tribe. Responsible for planning and implementation of the Early Action Watershed Projects for the Nez Perce Tribe.

6/25/1986 - 3/1/97, Tribal Government Program Manager, United States Forest Service,

Region One.

12/14/80 - 6/25/86, Facilities Manager, United States Forest Service, Region One.

7/74 - 10/79, Fire Cache Work Leader, USDA Forest Service, Region One.

Relevant Job Completion's: 1) Coordinated National, Multi-Regional, and Regional Civil Rights conferences. 2) Facilitated Treaty Rights workshops with host tribes and multi-government agencies. 3) Organized and conducted Tribal Relations Training primarily for management level from the U.S. Forest Service, Tribes, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. 4) Introduced, implemented, and managed the Inter-Tribal Youth Practicums for careers in natural resources and leadership within the U.S. Forest Service Regions 1, 5, 9, and 10. 5) Developed an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) position to work with the Salish Kootnai college to teach environmental science courses and develop a four-year natural science curriculum at the college. This three-year position and the program developed into a four-year accredited degree program in the fall of 1996.

## Section 10. Information/technology transfer

The forest service has a required obligation to provide research, transfer of technology, and technical assistance to Indian tribal governments (USDA, 1997). This obligation by the forest service will be used by the *Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries/Watershed Program* to aide in accomplishing the goals & objectives of our Program, NPPC Fish & Wildlife Program, and Spirit of the Salmon Recovery Plan of the Tribes. A relationship with Boise National Forest has been establish and has had a very positive impact on both organizations and is expected to continue in the future. This relationship has lead to several agreements, both verbal and written, for the completion of numerous projects within the Salmon River Subbasin.